

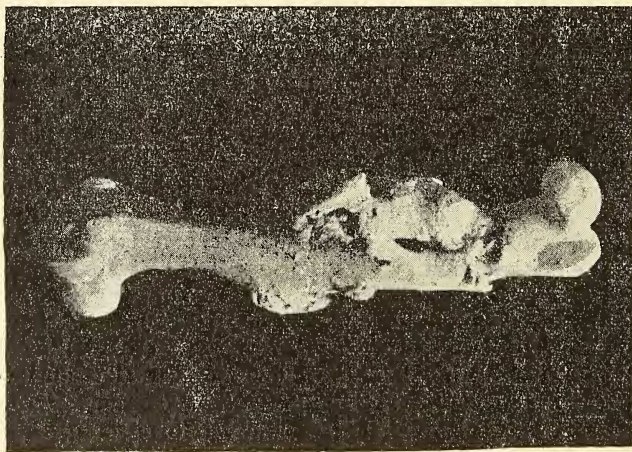
## 2. REMARKABLE RECOVERY OF A PANTHER FROM INJURY

*(With a photo)*

We have obtained from Fr. Fuller, Sacred Heart College, Shembaganur Palni Hills, Madurai District, South India, a panther's femur bone with the following note.

'On Monday 13th September 1954, two cows were killed by a panther. The first night the panther returned to one of the cows, had a meal and went away unharmed. On the morning of 15th September it came back again to the same cow and helped itself to a hearty meal and while lying on a rock nearby was shot dead with a rifle. It was a full-grown male and measured 54 inches from nose to root of tail (over curves) with a tail 35 inches long.

'While it was being skinned, three little dry scabs were noticed on the left rump. Each of them was  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch in diameter and arranged in a triangular pattern,  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch away from each other. This group of scabs was 4 inches from the centre of the back and 7 inches from the tail (measurements taken over curves). There was no internal wound on the femoral muscles, but the femur on the right side itself was broken, but had joined and healed. This broken femur was nearly two inches shorter than the other.'



As the recovery from such a serious injury seemed remarkable the bone was sent to the Principal of the Bombay Veterinary College who reports on it as follows:

'The femur of the panther is from the right side and shows diaphysary comminuted fracture at the proximal third. Due to the epiphyseal traction, the bone is short by two inches, as compared to the normal one on the opposite side. An extensive callus is formed, as a result of the large gap, between the broken ends.'

The photograph will give an idea of the extent of the injury and recovery.

114 APOLLO STREET,  
BOMBAY I,  
March 20, 1955.

EDITORS